

# Introduction to Yr7



Welcome to St Joseph's, we are looking forward to working together to support your child be the best that they can be. Throughout your child's time at St Joseph's we will use a triangulated approach to working for the best of your child, involving your child, you and the school. The next five years of your child's education is working towards their GCSE exams in Summer 2021.

## **The School Mission Statement describes the distinctive nature of St. Joseph's:**

*“Our school is a community where Jesus Christ is our role model and his message the guiding principle behind all we do. Every member of our community is responsible for creating an environment that is caring, fair and respectful of each individual. We develop our potential, celebrate our talents and go forward together in faith.”*

## **Key Dates**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| * <b>Monday &amp; Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> | School Open to collect PE Kit   |
| * <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>                            | Term Begins 8.45am              |
| * <b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>                             | Year 7 Photographs              |
| * <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September</b>                             | Year 7 Welcome Day & Mass (7pm) |
| * <b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>                               | Residential                     |
| * <b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>                              | Year 7 Parents' Evening         |

## **Upcoming Challenges**

- \* Transition from Primary to Secondary
- \* New Routines, teachers and curriculum
- \* Friendships

## **Key People**

You will meet your child's form tutor tonight.

My child will be in **7Devereux** with **Mr McVey**.

Mrs Horridge will be the Year 7 Manager of Learning.

Queries and concerns should first be directed to your child's form tutor and/or Mrs Horridge.

## **Home School Agreement: Expectations**

In order to be effective and to ensure your child achieves their full potential at St Joseph's, expectations are set out for School, Parents/Carers and students in the home school agreement. This document will be signed by your child's form tutor, you and your child in September.

The School:

- **Nurture your child's spiritual development and formation**  
We will provide masses, assemblies and Sacred Space for your child and provide them with a deeper understanding of Gospel Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural experiences across the curriculum.
- **Care for your child's safety and well being**  
Your form tutor is your first contact with your child and will see your child on a daily basis. We will ensure your child is informed and aware of how to keep themselves safe and healthy and provide them with advice on how to seek support if they feel this is not the case. All our policies are available on the school website
- **Promote high standards of work and behaviour and provide clear guidance for students and parents**  
The school has a rewards scheme to promote excellent work and behaviour. Expectations are set from your child's pastoral team and subject teachers.
- **Ensure your child is given every opportunity to achieve their full potential as a valued member of the school community**  
Your child will be offered a wide and diverse curriculum as well as extra-curricular opportunities to ensure that the "whole child" is developed.
- **Provide a balanced curriculum to meet your child's individual needs**  
We will ensure that your child can access the curriculum that they are provided with and offer appropriate support or stretch within this to meet your child's needs. Learning plans for each half term are available on the school website.
- **Contact you if we have any concerns and keep you informed about your child's progress and how you can help them at home**  
Regular communication between home and school is important. We will have an email address of [MoLHH@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:MoLHH@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk) for any concerns or questions that you may have. You will receive 3 reports over the course of Year 7 and there will be a Year 7 Parents' Evening in November.
- **Set, mark and monitor homework**  
School will issue a timetable for homework and there is a homework policy detailing expectations for homework on the school website. Homework will be meaningful to support and develop your child's learning.
- **Keep parents informed about school activities**  
You will receive a Y7 newsletter at the start of each term that will detail key events for Year 7. The school also issues a weekly newsletter and any letters that are sent home are available on the school website.

The Parent/Carer:

- **See that my child takes a full and active part in the spiritual life of St Joseph's**  
Please encourage your child to be involved in the spiritual life of St Joseph's, pray with them at home and ask them about their experiences of this in school. Encourage your child to share their talents in assemblies and Masses through music, singing and public speaking.

- **See that my child goes to school regularly, on time, properly dressed and properly equipped**  
Please ensure that your child has excellent attendance (97%+), there is a proven link between good attendance and attainment. Please ensure that your child attends school in full school uniform in accordance with the uniform policy which can be found on the school website. Please ensure that your child has the correct books and equipment for each of their lessons each day.
- **Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's behaviour**  
Please let your child's form tutor or Manager of Learning know of anything that could affect your child in school. We will support your child during this time in liaison with advice from you.
- **Support my child with his/her homework and home learning opportunities and ensure my child completes homework on time**  
Please check and sign your child's planner on at least a weekly basis and encourage your child to share their homework with you. Learning plans for each of your child's subjects are available on the school website.
- **Attend parents' evenings and discussions about my child's progress**  
Please make every effort to attend your child's Parents' Evening and notify us in advance if you are unable to attend. Use the planner as a communication tool to discuss your child's progress if required.
- **Support the school with any disciplinary sanctions**  
The behaviour of pupils at St Joseph's is a clear strength of the school, as commented on during our last Ofsted report, please support the school in maintaining this.
- **Support my child in responding positively to the general expectations and regulations of the school**  
At St Joseph's we adhere to the "Golden Rule" which is to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves. We are also proud of our environment and expect our pupils to treat their school environment with respect. Energy drinks are not permitted in school and water must be kept in bags. Parents will be provided with access to the school reward system to celebrate your child's success in school.
- **Monitor my child's internet usage to comply with e-safety regulations**  
Many pupils have internet access and access to social media, please read the school policies on Internet Safety and Cyberbullying. We will also hold a Parents' Internet Safety evening for parents who wish to attend and learn more about e-safety for their child.
- **Support school with the mobile phone policy**  
Pupils are not permitted mobile phones in school. Any communication with your child at school must go through the relevant member of staff. Any pupil caught using a mobile phone in school will have it confiscated.

The Student:

These expectations have been shared with your child during their transition days.

- *Take a full and active part in the life of St Joseph's as a Catholic School*
- *Attend school regularly and on time with any necessary equipment*
- *Wear school uniform and be tidy in appearance*
- *Do all my classwork and homework on time and to the best of my ability*
- *Tell a member of staff if I have any worries or concerns*
- *Behave in a manner which is respectful to people and property both inside and outside school*
- *Observe school's rules and expectations*
- *Follow the school rules with e-safety and mobile phones*

## Homework

- \* Homework is an integral part of high school life and we would appreciate your support in monitoring it closely.
- \* Homework timetable to be issued to parents, approx. 1 hour per night

Type of Homework	Learner's Task	Parent Support
Learning	Remember certain facts, details, words or rules	Test
Completing	Finish work started in school	Check and comment on completed work. Ask about the exercise
Writing Up	Write up work covered in school or write a redraft of rough work	Talk about the piece to help pupil remember the details of the work
Questions	Answering questions after a lesson	Check the answers
Finding Out	Gathering information on a given subject	Suggest where they might find the information
Revision	Learning a section of work for a test or an examination	Get child to explain the work. Any questions
Reading Ahead	Reading text to prepare for next section of work	Be aware of what they are doing in each subject
Other Preparation	Preparation for a lesson by putting ideas or information down in his/her jotter	Ask child to read the work to you. Rules of spelling and punctuation apply in all the work.

## Supporting Resources

Email: [MoLHH@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:MoLHH@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk) (Mrs Horridge: Y7 Manager of Learning)

Website: <http://www.stjosephsbolton.org.uk/>

Telephone: 01204 697456

